

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 04963 141452Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-10 ACDA-10 SAJ-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

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INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, MARR, PO

SUBJ: GOP MINISTER VICTOR ALVES COMMENTS ON NATO AND LAJES

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PAGE 02 LISBON 04963 141452Z

1. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS NOVEMBER 14 CARRIES REPORT FROM A

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CONCERNING VISIT BY MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO VICTOR ALVES TO BRUSSELS. REPORT ON PRESS CONFERENCE HELD NOVEMBER 13, QUOTES ALVES AS STATING THAT PORTUGAL WILL ONLY LEAVE NATO IF A MAJORITY OF ITS PEOPLE OBJECT TO THE CONTINUATION OF THAT ASSOCIATION, A PROBLEM WHICH, HOWEVER, WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED UNTIL AFTER THE 1975 GENERAL ELECTIONS. QUOTE BUT IF THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE DESIRE OUR WITHDRAWAL AFTER THE ELECTIONS, THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNQUOTE THE MINISTER IS REPORTED AS STATING.

2. THE SAME PAPER CARRIES A FRANCE PRESSE REPORT QUOTING ALVES AS STATING THAT THE LAJES BASE, QUOTE WHICH IS A NATO BASE, MAY ONLY BE UTILIZED WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THAT ALLIANCE. UNQUOTE THE REPORT STATES THAT ALVES INDICATED THAT PORTUGAL IS IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING WITH THE U.S. THE CONDITIONS FOR THE UTILIZATION OF THAT BASE IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS OF APRIL 25. QUOTE THE CONDITIONS WHICH WE ARE PROPOSING ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE POSED BY THE PREVIOUS REGIME UNQUOTE, ALVES REPORTEDLY SAID. FRANCE PRESSE COMMENTS THAT EXPERTS ON ATLANTIC AFFAIRS CONSIDER THIS DECLARATION TO CONSTITUTE AN UNMISTAKABLE SIGN THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WILL IN THE FUTURE PROHIBIT ANY USE OF THE BASE FOR PURPOSES EXCEPT THOSE OF DEFENSE OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF NATO. THE REPORT CONCLUDES THAT IF A NEW MIDDLE EAST WAR SHOULD BREAK OUT, THAT BASE COULD NOT THEREFORE SERVE AS A REFUELING STOP FOR THE SUPPLY OF AMERICAN ARMS TO ISRAEL. SCOTT

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